New pipeline

1088. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to lay the new pipe line in Maharashtra, Andhra, Karnataka on the pattern of HBJ pipe line;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) the number of fertilizer plants which are likely to come up in Marathwada, Vidarbha and other parts of Sourthern states; and

(d) by when it is likely to be laid?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d) The question of setting up a Southern Gas Grid is being examined by an Inter-Ministerial Group.

Crude production

1089. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import crude oil worth Rs. 2,500 crores at the current international prices for the current year;

(b) what is the quantity of crude oil that is produced in our country; and

(c) whether Government are considering any proposals for stepping up production of crude oil within the country instead of spending huge amount of foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) During current financial year (1991-92) the total import of crude oil is estimated to be around 23.7 million tonnes valued at around Rs. (7,500 crores if the current prices continue in the remaining part of the financial year.

(b) The revised target of crude oil production including NGL for the current year is 31.8 million tonnes.

(c) Government have sanctioned five major oil field development projects of ONGC, *viz.*, projects for the development of the Neelam, Mukta and Panna fields in the Western Offshore and projects for the additional development of the L II and L III reservoirs in the Bombay field.

इलाहाबाद में रसोई गैस की प्रतीक्षा सूची

1090. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :** क्या **पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 31 जनवरी, 1992 को इलाहाबाद शहर और इलाहाबाद जिले में रसोई गैस के कनेक्शन हेतु प्रतीक्षा सूची में आवेदकों की कुल संख्या कितनी है ; और

(ख) इन सभी आवेदकों को किस समय तक गैस कनेक्शन प्रदान किये जाने की संभावना है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री वी. शंकरानन्द) : (क) यद्यपि शहर के अनुसार सूचियां रखी नहीं जाती हैं, इलाहाबाद जिले के लिए तेल कम्पनियों द्वारा उपलब्ध प्रतिक्षा सूची में 31-1-92 तक लगभग 63,000 व्यक्ति हैं ।

(ख) जितने भी आवेदक हैं सभी को यथाशीघ्र एल० पी० जी० कनेक्शन देने का प्रयास निरंतर किया जा रहा है ।

Loan for development of oil/gas production

1091. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Asian Development Bank has recently approv-

ed a loan of $250 million for the development of oil and gas production in the country;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of the loan;

(c) whether Government propose to invest the same during the year 1992-93; and

(d) if so, the extent by which the production of oil and gas is likely to increase as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The Asian Development Bank has sanctioned a loan of US $ 267 million for the development of Gandhar Field Development Project. The terms and conditions include the ordinary loan operation regulations and some other conditions such as decisions on gas pricing, fourth round of biddings etc. The loan is to be utilized by 31.3.1996.

(d) An incremental production of 16.521 million tonnes of oil and 18.14 billion cubic metres of gas.

Tenders for off-shore rigs

1092. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tenders for some offshore jack up rigs have been finalised in favour of certain foreign firms;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether indigenous firms have also submitted tenders for the purpose;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what are the reasons for deciding the tenders in favour of foreign companies?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Recently the Government have approved the charter hire of 9 off shore jack up rigs by Oil & Natural Gas Commission, out of which 3 rigs were hired from foreign firms. In another tender for a Shallow Water Jackup rig for drilling in Gulf of Cambay the contract was awarded to a foreign company.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Seven Indian companies had participated in the jackup rig tender, out of which 3 offers were not techno-commercially acceptable. Six rigs available with Indian companies offered in the tender were also hired since there were requirements for all these rigs. In the tender for Shallow water Jackup rig the Indian company did not sign the contract due to increase in price and hence the contract had to be awarded to the foreign firm.

Asain Development Bank loan for oil exploration

1093. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of the export earnings presently spent on the import of crude oil and petroleum products annually;

(b) whether it is a fact that the assistance of 400 million dollars is likely to be received by the Government from Asian Development Bank for oil exploration in the country;

(c) what are the oil fields which are proposed to be exploited with the Asian Development Bank loan and what are the expectations of recovery from these fields; and

(d) whether Government propose to invite private sector participation in all aspects of the exploration of oil fields?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Approximately 33 per cent in 1990-91.

(b) and (c) A loan of US $ 267 million has been sanctioned by the Asian